

Message Text

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70

ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CEQ-01 NSF-01 EPA-01

AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07

IO-11 NEA-10 NSAE-00 USIA-06 OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 SS-15 NSC-05 H-02 L-03

DOT-00 HUD-01 HEW-02 STR-04 INT-05 AGR-05 /132 W

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R 050850Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7467

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 3382

E.O. 11652 N/

TAGS: SENV, OECD, JA

SUBJ: FLOUROCARBONS AND PCBS IN THE OECD

REF: STATE 048565

1. EMBASSY CARRIED OUT INSTRUCTIONS REFTEL ON 3/5/76. SCOCOUNS MET WITH KAWANISHI OF EA, HANDED HIM WRITTEN STATEMENT AND LETTER REQUESTING GOJ SUPPORT FOR USG FLUOROCARBON PROPOSAL IN IECD, AND ASKED FOR HIS REACTION. HE REPLIED THAT WHEN USG BROUGHT UP THIS SUBJECT AT NOVEMBER 1975 OECD ENV. COMM. MEETING, GOJ DELEGATION SUPPORTED US POSITION OPENLY, ONLY TO FIND ON RETURNING TO TOKYO THAT IT HAD GONE BEYOND ITS AUTHORITY. DIFFICULTY IS THAT EA INDEED SUPPORTS OECD ACTIVITY ON FLUOROCARBONS BUT MITI (AS USUAL) IS HANGING BACK IN THE BELIEF THAT GOJ SUPPORT OF OECD STUDY WILL IMPLY THAT JAPAN WILL BE COMMITTED IN ADVANCE TO IMPOSING REGULATIONS FOR CONTROL OF FLUROCARBON EMISSIONS--EVEN BEFORE SUBSTITUTES HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED. EMBOFF POINTED OUT THAT U.S. CITES NEED

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VOR IDENTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTES AS ONE OF HIGHEST PRIORITY

AREAS AND THAT THIS WOULD SERVE TO MEET MITI CONCERNS. EMBOFF THEN PROPOSED THAT HE SEND COPIES OF STATEMENT TO BOTH MITI AND MOFA AND THIS WAS AGREED TO BY KAWANISHI WITHOUT QUESTION.

2. KAWANISHI ASKED WHY U.S. WAS CONNECTING PCBS TO FLUOROCARBONS AND EMBOFF SURMISED THAT HIS WAS BECAUSE PCBS ARE NOT YET CONTROLLED IN U.S. TO EXTENT THAT THEY ARE IN JAPAN AND THAT USG WISHED TO SEE INTERNATIONAL RATHER THAN NATION-BY-NATION STANDARDS ESTABLISHED FOR PCB CONTROL AND USE. (SEPTTEL ON PCBS NOT YET RECEIVED).

3. COMMENT: MITI MAY WELL RULE ROOST ON THIS ISSUE FOR TIME BEING, SINCE IT WILL BE TRYING TO PROTECT FLUOROCARBON MANUFACTURERS AND USERS FROM RESTRICTIONS THE NEED FOR WHICH IS NOT YET WIDELY PERCEIVED IN JAPAN. ON OTHER HAND, MITI WILL WANT TO HAVE CAKE AND EAT IT TOO BY TAKING ADVANTAGE OF ANY RESULTS WHICH ARE FORTHCOMING FROM OECD STUDY. IT THEREFORE APPEARS THAT GOJ DELEGATION MAY GO TO MEETING ESSENTIALLY WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS AND WILL NEITHER SUPPORT NOR OPPOSE USG PROPOSAL. EMBASSY BELIEVES IT WILL BE USEFUL TO GET MOFA INVOLVED, AND WILL REPORT FURTHER IF ANY NEW INFO DEVELOPS PRIOR TO MEETING. SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, POLLUTION, MEETINGS, FLUORINE, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TOKYO03382
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760085-0233
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760388/aaaaczsk.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 48565
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 APR 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <20 APR 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FLOUROCARBONS AND PCBS IN THE OECD
TAGS: SENV, JA, US, OECD
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006